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Giza, near Cairo.

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WILD BIRDS

OF THE GIZA GARDENS,

1898-1911.

BY

MICHAEL J. NICOLL.

CAIRO:
Printed at the NATIONAL PRINTING DEPARTMENT,
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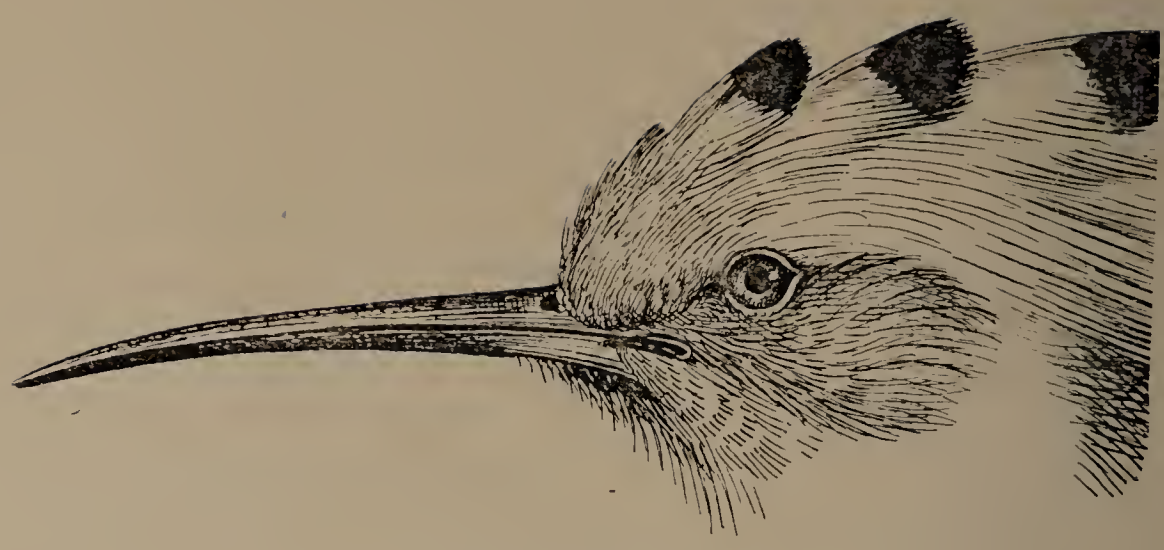
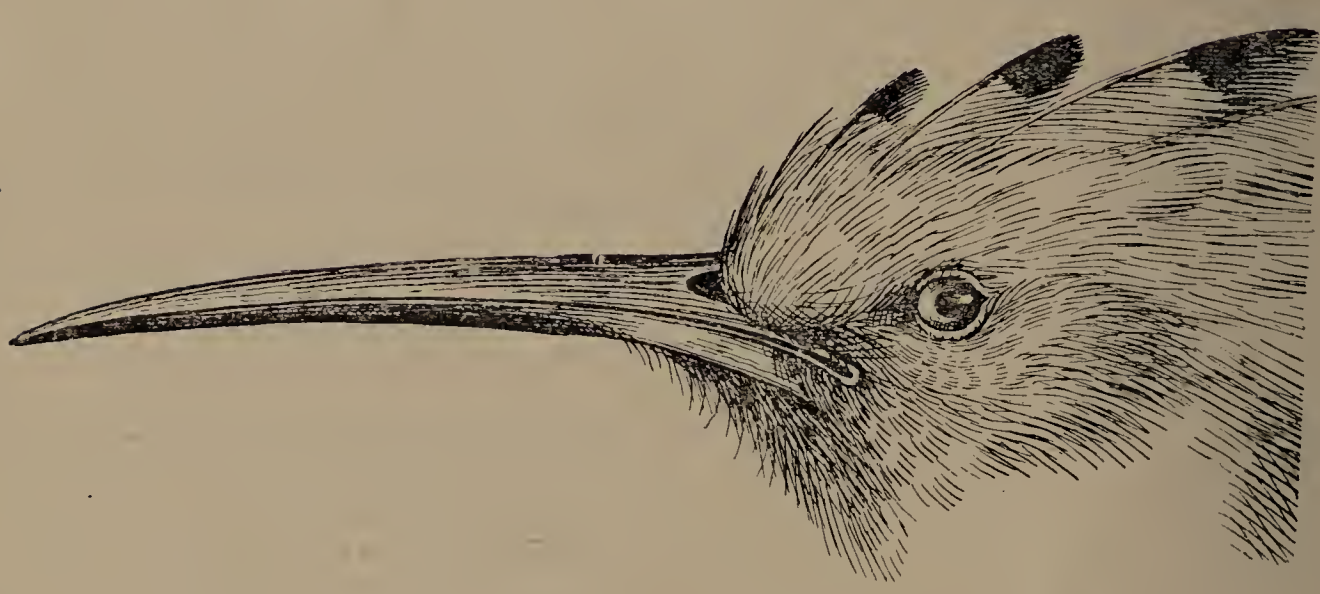


European Hoopoe.
Upupa epops epops.



Brehm's Hoopoe.
Upupa epops major.

Natural size.

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FOREIGN SPECIES OF BIRDS, WHICH PRESUMABLY MUST HAVE ESCAPED FROM CAPTIVITY ELSEWHERE IN EGYPT, WHICH HAVE VISITED THE GIZA ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS OF THEIR OWN ACCORD. OCTOBER 1898–DECEMBER 1911 31

PREFACE.

The Giza Zoological Gardens occupy an area of about 50 feddans (roughly 52 acres, or 21 hectares), on the left bank of the Nile, opposite the city of Cairo.

One of the chief attractions of these Gardens is the large number of wild birds which frequent them; and in response to enquiries from visitors a list (based on daily records) of these birds was prepared and published in 1908. This list contained 166 species, and has been for some time out of print.

Mr. Nicoll has now prepared a second edition of this list, in which, owing to his careful observations and records, he is able to include no less than 200 species of birds which have appeared in this limited area, 187 of these being wild representatives of the avifauna of Egypt, and 13 foreign birds which presumably having escaped from captivity in Cairo have come to the Zoological Gardens of their own accord.

Giza, Egypt, 31st December 1911.

S. S. Flower,
Director, Government Zoological Gardens.

INTRODUCTION.

In the present edition it has been found necessary to make some alterations in the nomenclature used in the first edition.

As regards the *Passeres* I have followed Hartert ("Die Vögel de paläarktischen Fauna") and taken the tenth edition of Linnaeus as the base.

Since the first issue of this report we have found that so many of the birds, such as Song-Thrush and Blackbird, belong to different sub-species to those found in Great Britain that, except in a few instances, no references are made to Howard Saunders ("Manual of British Birds," 2nd edition, 1899 and "British Birds" Magazine). Where such references have been made they are indicated by the letters H. S.

As in the former edition, references to Shelley ("Birds of Egypt," 1872) are made wherever possible and indicated by the letter S., though some species, for example the Gold Crest and Half-collared Flycatcher, were not included by that author.

Up to December 31st, 1911, one hundred and eighty-seven species and sub-species of birds have been observed in these Gardens, but it is interesting to note that out of this number only seventeen have been known to breed within the walls.

As visitors frequently ask what birds breed in the Gardens, a list of them may be of interest:—

Rufous Warbler	*Aedon galactodes galactodes.*
Olivaceous Warbler	*Hypolais pallida pallida.*
Fantail Warbler	*Cisticola cisticola cisticola.*
Graceful Warbler	*Prinia gracilis deltae.*
Goldfinch	*Carduelis elegans.*
Sparrow	*Passer domesticus indicus.*
Amaduvade Finch	*Sporaeginthus amandava.*
Hooded Crow	*Corvus cornix cornix.*
Barn Owl	*Tyto alba kirchhoffi.*
Southern Little Owl	*Athene noctua glaux.*
Desert Buzzard	*Buteo vulgaris desertorum.*
Yellow-billed Kite	*Milvus migrans aegyptius.*
Erlanger's Kestrel	*Cerchneis tinnunculus carlo.*
Grey Heron	*Ardea cinerea.*
Palm Dove	*Turtur senegalensis aegyptiacus.*
Moorhen	*Gallinula chloropus.*
Senegal Stone Curlew	*Oedicnemus senegalensis.*

It has frequently been stated that there are no song birds in Egypt. A visit to these Gardens when the Rufous Warbler, Olivaceous Warbler and Nightingale are in song will at once dispel this illusion.

Giza, 31st December 1911.

M. J. Nicoll,
Assistant-Director, Government Zoological Gardens

SPECIES OF BIRDS FOUND WILD IN EGYPT, WHICH HAVE VISITED THE GIZA ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS OF THEIR OWN ACCORD.

October 1898 — December 1911.

1. Song-Thrush, *Turdus philomelus philomelus.*
   Turdus musicus, S. 66.
   A regular winter visitor, arrives in late autumn, leaves in spring Some winters very abundant. Frequently heard singing in the Gardens.

2. Redwing, *Turdus musicus.*
   Turdus iliacus, H. S. 5.
   Not mentioned by Shelley.
   A visitor in midwinter, and again in spring, at no time numerous.

3. Fieldfare, *Turdus pilaris.*
   S. 65.
   Twice noted ; 13th and 21st November 1906.

4. Blackbird, *Turdus merula syriaca.*
   Turdus merula, S. 66.
   A regular winter visitor, arrives in November or December, leaves in spring. Some winters very abundant.

5. Ring-Ouzel, *Turdus torquatus orientalis.*
   Turdus torquatus, S. 67.
   Noted occasionally in late autumn and winter.
   One adult male obtained belongs to this form.

6. Rock-Thrush, *Monticola saxatilis.*
   S. 70.
   An occasional visitor during the spring migration.

7. Blue Rock-Thrush, *Monticola solitarius transcaspicus.*
   Monticola cyanus, S. 70.
   Once noted : 23rd March 1904.

8. Wheatear, *Saxicola œnanthe œnanthe.*
   S. 71.
   A visitor in small numbers during spring and autumn migrations.

9. Isabelline Wheatear, *Saxicola isabellina.*
   Saxicola saltatrix, S. 72.
   Has been seen on following occasions, 5th November 1906, 4th April 1907, 26th to 29th March and 3rd April 1910.

10. Eastern Black-throated Wheatear, *Saxicola hispanica xanthomelaena.*
   Saxicola eurymelaena, S. 73.
   A pair frequented the Gardens 22nd to 24th March 1906, and a single adult male was noticed on two occasions during the first week of April 1907. Several were seen during March 1910.
   Eastern Black-eared Wheatear.
   Saxicola amphileuca, S. 72.
   Saxicola stapazina, H. S. "British Birds Mag.," Vol. I, p. 6 (1907).
   A Black-eared Chat believed to be referable to this form was seen at very close quarters on 10th April 1907.
   There seems little doubt that the Black-throated and Black-eared Chats are but forms or phases of one species only differing in the colouration of the throat.

11. Desert Wheatear, *Saxicola deserti deserti.*
   S. 74.
   One frequented the Gardens 23rd October to 1st November 1906.

12. (Whinchat, *Pratincola rubetra.*)
   S. 81.
   One seen outside Main Gate of Gardens, 6th April 1908.

13. (Stonechat, *Pratincola torquata rubicola.*)
   Pratincola rubicola, S. 81.
   Noted outside walls of Gardens in January and March.

14. Redstart, *Phœnicurus phœnicurus phœnicurus.*
   Ruticilla phœnicurus, S. 82.
   Common during spring and autumn migrations.

15. Black Redstart, *Phœnicurus ochrurus gibraltariensis.*
   Ruticilla titys, S. 83.
   This species is believed to have been seen on several occasions in the Giza Gardens prior to 1908. On 25th January 1910 an undoubted example was seen, and another on 22nd February 1911.

16. Blue Rock-Chat, *Myrmecocichla melanura.*
Not mentioned by Shelley, and not previously recorded from Egypt
One seen at close quarters, 9th October 1907 : see " Ibis," 1908, pages 201 and 544.

17. Bluethroat, *Luscinia suecica suecica.*
Cyanecula suecica, S. 85.
A regular visitor in autumn and spring. Some remain throughout the winter in the Gardens.

18. White-spotted Bluethroat, *Luscinia suecica cyanecula.*
Cyanecula wolfi, H. S. " British Birds Mag.," Vol. I, p. 7 (1907).
A winter visitor, less numerous than the typical Bluethroat.

19. Redbreast, *Dandalus rubecula rubecula*
Erithacus rubecula, S. 87.
A regular winter visitor, arrives in November or December, leaves in spring. Abundant during winter months, when it is often to be heard singing in the Gardens.
This is a different form to the British Redbreast, being paler, especially on the breast : it has different habits and a weaker song.

20. Nightingale, *Luscinia megarhynchus megarhynchus.*
Philomela luscinia, S. 88.
A very abundant visitor in spring, but seldom seen in autumn. Sings in the Gardens during the spring migration.

21. Sprosser Nightingale, *Luscinia luscinia.*
Philomela major, S. 88.
Four records : 5th May 1907 and 1st November 1908, 15th and 25th September 1911.

22. Whitethroat, *Sylvia communis communis.*
Sylvia cinerea, S. 111.
A somewhat scarce visitor during spring and autumn migrations.

23. Lesser Whitethroat, *Sylvia curruca curruca.*
S. 110.
Very abundant in spring and autumn.

*

24. Blackcap, *Sylvia atricapilla atricapilla.*
Curruca atricapilla. S. 105.
Common throughout winter months. Sings during the whole time of its stay.

25. Garden-Warbler, *Sylvia borin borin.*
Curruca hortensis, S. 104.
A very scarce visitor on migration : two seen 22nd March 1907 and one 30th April 1910.

26. Subalpine Warbler, *Sylvia subalpina albistriata.*
Sylvia subalpina, S. 109.
Not uncommon during spring migration, and has been observed in November.

27. Black-headed Warbler, *Sylvia melanocephala melanocephala.*
Curruca melanocephala, S. 107.
Winter and spring, uncommon.

28. Bowman's Warbler, *Sylvia momus.*
Not mentioned by Shelley.
One male seen on the 24th March 1907.

29. Rueppell's Warbler, *Sylvia rueppelli.*
Curruca Rueppellii, S. 106.
A common visitor during the spring migration ; occasionally seen in autumn.

30. Chiffchaff, *Phylloscopus collybita collybita.*
Phyllopneuste rufa, S. 102.
Arrives in October and departs in April. Numbers winter in the Gardens, and are sometimes heard in full song in midwinter.

31. Nilsson's Chiffchaff, *Phylloscopus collybita abietina.*
P. collybita abietina, Hartert, Vögel der pal. Fauna, Heft IV, page 563 (1907).
Arrives in autumn, and winters in the Gardens. The call note of this bird is a shrill pēēk totally different to the note of the typical chiffchaff.

32. Willow Warbler, *Phylloscopus trochilus trochilus.*
Phyllopneuste trochilus, S. 103.
A not uncommon migrant in autumn ; never for certain seen in spring.

33. Northern Willow-wren, *Phylloscopus trochilus eversmanni.*
An adult male on 10th October 1911.

34. Bonelli's Warbler, *Phylloscopus bonellii orientalis.*
Phyllopneuste bonellii, S. 101.
A regular visitor during the autumn migration. It does not winter here, but reappears in large numbers during the spring migration in March and April.

35. Wood Warbler, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix sibilatrix.*
The typical Wood-wren sometimes occurs amongst the numbers of Erlanger's Wood-wren which pass through in spring.

36. Erlanger's Wood Warbler, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix erlangeri.*
Phyllopneuste sylvicola, S. 101.
Seen during the spring migration, during which time they are one of the last warblers to appear. In April 1909 very large numbers frequented the gardens, and again in April 1911 quantities were seen.
This sub-species differs from the typical Wood Warbler in being much more brightly coloured.

37. Rufous Warbler, *Aedon galactodes galactodes.*
S. 85.
Arrives in March and April, nests in the Gardens, and departs in September. Its song resembles that of the Redbreast, but is fuller and sweeter.

38. ? Melodious Warbler, *Hypolais polyglotta.*
Phyllopneuste hippolais, S. 103.

39. Olivaceous Warbler, *Hypolais pallida pallida.*
Hypolais elaeica, S. 100.
Arrives in April. Large numbers nest in the Gardens. Leaves in September. The song of this bird is somewhat like that of the Reed-Warbler, but much fuller and sweeter. It may be heard singing during the whole of the summer, and frequently in autumn (September).

40. Reed-Warbler, *Acrocephalus streperus.*
Calamoherpe arundinacea, S. 94.
Two seen in a reed-bed in the Orman Garden, 23rd August 1907, and two, one of which was singing, in the Zoological Gardens 6th April 1910.

41. Great Reed-Warbler, *Acrocephalus*, species ?

On the 28th September 1907 a Great Reed-Warbler was seen in the Gardens, but, as it was not obtained, it is impossible to say to which form it belonged.

42. Sedge Warbler, *Acrocephalus schœnobœnus*

Calamodyta schœnobœnus, S. 91.

One seen 18th April 1909 and one during April 1911.

43. (Moustached Sedge-Warbler, *Lusciniola melanopogon*).

Calamodyta melanopogon, S. 93.

One seen in the Orman Garden, 23rd August 1907.

44. Grasshopper-Warbler, *Locustella naevia.*

A single example of this species, which is not mentioned by Shelley, was met with on the 28th September 1907.

45. Fantail Warbler, *Cisticola cisticola cisticola.*

Cisticola schœnicola, S. 97.

A pair seen occasionally during September 1907, and August and September 1908.

A nest with young found in the Gardens and the parent birds seen in July 1909.

46. Graceful Warbler, *Prinia gracilis deltae.*

Drymœca gracilis, S. 98.

An abundant resident : nests in low bushes and undergrowth. The persistent note of this little bird is one of the most familiar sounds in the Gardens.

47. Golden-crested Wren, *Regulus regulus.*

Several frequented the Gardens from 22nd November to 21st December 1910. Never previously recorded from Egypt, two examples obtained on 10th December. On 22nd February 1911 a single example was seen.

48. Nuthatch, *Sitta sp.* ?

Not included by Shelley.

One seen, 10th February 1903.

49. White Wagtail, *Motacilla alba alba.*
S. 126.
Arrives in October, abundant during winter, leaves in March and April. The cock birds may frequently be seen singing, perched on the tops of the monkeys' cages.

50. Grey Wagtail, *Motacilla boarula boarula.*
Motacilla sulphurea, S. 127.
Motacilla melanope, H. S. 125.
A few winter in the Gardens, from October to April.

51. Blue-headed Wagtail, *Motacilla flava melanocephala.*
Budytes melanocephala, S. 128–130.
Yellow Wagtails are occasionally seen flying over in autumn and spring, but seldom near enough to make out to which sub-species they belong. An adult male of the present race was, however, clearly identified on 6th April 1909.

52. Tree-Pipit, *Anthus trivialis trivialis.*
Anthus plumatus, S. 130.
Occasionally seen in small flocks during April, and again in September and October.

53. Meadow-Pipit, *Anthus pratensis.*
S. 131.
One seen, 8th December 1906.

54. Red-throated Pipit, *Anthus cervinus.*
S. 131.
Frequently seen or heard flying over during the winter and early spring.

55. Tawny Pipit, *Anthus campestris campestris.*
S. 134.
A flock of about six individuals seen flying over on the 16th of March 1907, and during March and the first part of April 1910 eight frequented one of the lawns in the gardens.

56. Water-Pipit, *Anthus spinolettus coutellii.*
Anthus spinolettus, S. 132.
Anthus spinolettus coutellii, Hartert, Vög. der pal. Fauna, Heft III, page 281 (1905).
Seen and heard flying over during autumn, winter and early spring.

57. Golden Oriole, *Oriolus galbula.*

S. 156.

A spring and autumn migrant. Sometimes heard singing in the spring. In April 1909 hundreds of Golden Orioles were seen in the Gardens feeding on the mulberries. Many of the males were in full song. On 2nd and 6th September 1911 birds in immature plumage were heard singing.

58. Bulbul, *Pycnonotus* ? *arsinöe.*

On 23rd March 1911 a Bulbul was seen and heard in full song. As it was not obtained it is impossible to state to what species it belonged. *P. arsinöe* has not been recorded from further north than the Fayūm.

59. Red-backed Shrike, *Lanius collurio.*

S. 117.

A regular autumn migrant.

60. Masked Shrike, *Lanius nubicus.*

S. 116.

H. S. "British Birds Magazine," Vol. I, page 11 (1907).

A regular visitor in spring and autumn. In 1907 one bird remained in the Gardens until the 6th May, and in 1910 two adult males were seen on 14th May.

61. Spotted Flycatcher, *Muscicapa striata striata.*

Muscicapa grisola, S. 118.

A common visitor during both migrations.

62. Pied Flycatcher, *Muscicapa atricapilla atricapilla.*

S. 119.

A common visitor in spring ; of rare occurrence in autumn.

63. Half-collared Pied Flycatcher, *Muscicapa atricapilla semitorquata.*

On April 14th 1909 an adult male of this species which had not previously been recorded from Egypt, was obtained in the Gardens. In April 1910 several other adult males were seen and in April 1911 this Flycatcher was again observed. It is doubtless a regular spring visitor on migration but previously overlooked.

64. White-collared Flycatcher, *Muscicapa collaris.*

S. 120.

This species has so far only been seen during the spring migration.

65. Red-breasted Flycatcher, *Muscicapa parva parva.*
An adult female recorded, 11th November 1906; see "Bulletin British Ornithologists Club," Vol. XIX, page 31 (December 1906). This is, apparently, the first record of this species from Egypt.

66. Swallow, *Hirundo rustica rustica.*
A regular spring and autumn migrant.

67. Egyptian Swallow, *Hirundo rustica savignii.*
Hirundo Riocourii, S. 121.
Common and resident, but does not breed in the Gardens.

68. Red-rumped Swallow, *Hirundo rufula.*
S. 122.
On 13th April 1911 two of these large swallows were seen flying over the Gardens.

69. House-Martin, *Chelidon urbica.*
S. 125.
A regular visitor, in small numbers, during both migrations.

70. Sand-Martin, *Riparia riparia riparia.*
Cotyle riparia, S. 124.
Several seen in March 1909, and again in March and April 1910.

71. Shelley's Sand-Martin, *Riparia riparia littoralis.*
Cotyle shellyi. Sharpe Catalogue Birds British Museum, Vol. X, p. 100 (1885).
Arrives in March, and is to be seen throughout the summer.

72. ? Greenfinch, *Ligurinus chloris.*

73. Hawfinch, *Coccothraustes coccothraustes.*
S. 150.
One caught alive in the Gardens, 16th December 1904.

74. Goldfinch, *Carduelis elegans subsp.*
S. 152.
A few pairs nest in the Gardens, and may occasionally be seen throughout the year. Frequently heard singing.

75. Siskin. *Chrysomitis spinus.*

Not included by Shelley. First seen here 11th February 1907, and many observed during the following month. A female was caught alive in the Gardens on the 26th October 1907. On 9th and 11th March 1911 several were seen in the Gardens.

76. Serin, *Serinus hortulanus.*

S. 154.

A pair frequented the Gardens during February 1908 and February 1909, and in February and March 1911.

77. Amaduvade, *Sporaeginthus amandava.*

Regularly every July or August numbers of these birds, which were previously supposed to be found in India only, arrive in these Gardens and throughout the neighbourhood.

They at once commence nesting, and in October they and their young leave to reappear the following year in July or August.

78. House-Sparrow, *Passer domesticus indicus.*

Passer domesticus, S. 148.

Abundant and resident. Breeds in the Gardens. The Egyptian House-Sparrow differs from the European *Passer domesticus domesticus*, and seems to be inseparable from the Indian Sparrow.

79. Spanish Sparrow, *Passer hispaniolensis.*

Passer salicicola, S. 149.

First seen on 3rd April 1909. A week later many frequented the Gardens for several days.

Lastly a flock was seen on 7th April 1910.

80. Chaffinch, *Fringilla cœlebs.*

S. 151.

A common winter visitor ; remains till the spring.

81. Linnet, *Linota cannabina meditteranea.*

Linota cannabina, S. 154.

Several seen 30th March 1907, and four on 16th November 1909.

At the end of February 1911 several linnets were seen flying over, and during the first half of March many roosted in some trees just outside the Gardens. On the 12th of that month thousands were seen at sunset wheeling over the Gardens in large flocks.

82. Corn-Bunting, *Emberiza calandra calandra.*
Emberiza miliaria, S. 144.
No positive records.

83. Ortolan, *Emberiza hortulana.*
S. 145.
One seen in the Gardens on 18th April 1909 and one on 16th March 1910.

84. Cretzschmar's Bunting, *Emberiza caesia.*
S. 146.
A regular visitor during the autumn migration. Not yet seen in spring.

85. Hooded Crow, *Corvus cornix cornix.*
S. 159.
Abundant and resident. Nests in tall trees in the Gardens. Collects in parties towards sunset time; as many as 66 crows have been counted thus collected together.

86. Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris* subsp. ?
S. 157.
On 10th December 1908 ten starlings were seen flying over the Gardens, and on 22nd November 1909 three more were observed under the same conditions. Three forms of starlings are known to occur in Egypt, i.e. *S. v. vulgaris*, *S. v. purpurascens* and *S. v. poltaratskyi;* but unless one has the birds in the hand it is impossible to identify them.

87. Grey Sky-Lark, *Alauda arvensis cinerea.**
Alauda arvensis, S. 139.
Alauda arvensis cinerea, Hartert, Vög. der pal. Fauna, Heft III, p. 247 (1905).
A winter visitor to Egypt, occasionally seen flying over the Gardens.

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* Another sub-species of Skylark, *Alauda arvensis cantarella*, is found in Egypt in the winter. Those seen in the Gardens may belong to this or to the previously mentioned form, but as no examples have been obtained in the Gardens it is impossible to say for certain.

88. Wood-Lark, *Lullula arborea.*
Alauda arborea, S. 139
One seen 25th November 1906.

89. Crested Lark, *Galerida cristata nigricans.**
Galerita cristata, S. 138.
Galerida cristata nigricans, Hartert, Vög. der pal. Fauna, Heft III, p. 227 (1905).
Frequently seen flying over the Gardens during the autumn and winter.

90. Calandra Lark, *Melanocorypha calandra.*
S. 143.
One seen flying over on 19th September 1911.

91. Short-toed Lark, *Calandrella brachydactyla brachydactyla.*
Calandrella brachydactyla, S. 141.
Alauda brachydactyla, H. S. 255.

92. Long-winged Short-toed Lark, *Calandrella brachydactyla longipennis.*
Numbers of Short-toed Larks may be seen flying over the Gardens during the spring and autumn migrations, but as two different sub-species occur commonly in Egypt it is impossible to say to which form those seen belong. One which was picked up dead on 22nd March 1903, however, belongs to the present form, which is greyer than the typical form and has moreover longer wings.

93. Swift, *Cypselus apus apus.*
Cypselus apus, S. 172.

94. Pale Swift, *Cypselus apus murinus.*
Cypselus pallidus, S. 172.
These two forms are impossible to distinguish apart when flying overhead. The latter may be seen throughout the year.

95. Nightjar, *Caprimulgus europaeus.*
S. 174.
A regular visitor during spring and autumn migrations.

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* Crested Larks seen flying over may belong either to the dark delta form or to the nearly allied slightly paler *G. c. altirostris*, which is found also near Giza.

96. Wryneck, *Iynx torquilla torquilla.*
Yunx torquilla, S. 161.
A regular visitor, in small numbers, in spring. Not yet observed in autumn.

97. Kingfisher, *Alcedo ispida pallida.*
Alcedo bengalensis, S. 166.
Several arrive in the Gardens every August, and remain till the following April. The common European Kingfisher has not been seen in these Gardens up to the present time.

98. Pied Kingfisher, *Ceryle rudis.*
S. 167.
Seen in varying numbers throughout the year. On the 5th May 1902 twenty-four of these Kingfishers were counted in one party in the Gardens.

99. Roller, *Coracias garrulus.*
Coracias garrula, S. 168.
A regular visitor during autumn migration; very rare in spring.

100. Bee-eater, *Merops apiaster.*
S. 169.
A regular visitor in large numbers during both migrations

101. Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, *Merops persicus.*
Merops aegyptius, S. 170.
On 26th March 1911 three of these bee-eaters were seen flying over the Gardens.

102. Green Bee-eater, *Merops lamark cleopatra.*
Merops viridis. S. 171. *Merops viridis cleopatra*, Nicoll, Bull. B.O.C. November 1910, p. 11.
Two seen on several occasions during January 1907, eight on the 21st November 1907, and two during October 1908. Three seen on 17th October 1911.

103. Hoopoe, *Upupa epops epops.*
S. 165.
Fairly numerous in spring and autumn.

104. Brehm's Hoopoe, *Upupa epops major.*
Upupa epops major, Brehm, Nicoll, Bull. B.O.C. June 1909, p. 99
In July and August 1909 a pair of Hoopoes belonging to the resident Egyptian sub-species frequented the Gardens, as did a single example in June and July 1910. In July and August three frequented the Gardens and one was captured alive.

105. Cuckoo, *Cuculus canorus.*
S. 162.
A regular visitor, in small numbers, during spring and autumn.
A Cuckoo was heard in " Song " on 30th April and 1st May 1910.

106. Great Spotted Cuckoo, *Coccystes glandarius.*
S. 162.
One seen in the Gardens on 1st May 1905.

107. Barn-Owl, *Tyto alba kirchhoffi.*
Aluco flammea, S. 176.
Common and resident. Breeds in the Gardens.

108. ? Long-eared Owl, *Asio otus.*
S. 178.

109. Tawny Owl, *Syrnium aluco.*
Strix aluco, S. 176.
Twice seen in November 1906, and heard 7th August 1908.

110. Southern Little Owl, *Athene noctua glaux.*
Carine meridionalis, S. 177.
Common and resident. Breeds in the Gardens.

111. (Scops-Owl, *Scops giu*).
S. 178.
One seen, by Mr. A. L. Butler, outside Main Gate of Gardens, 26th of August 1904.

112. Egyptian Eagle-Owl, *Bubo ascalaphus.*
S. 180.
This owl has been heard in the Gardens on two occasions, *i.e.* 9th and 12th February 1910.

113. ? Griffon-Vulture, *Gyps fulvus*.
S. 210.
A large vulture seen circling over the Gardens on the 17th of December 1904, was apparently of this species.

114. Egyptian Vulture, *Neophron percnopterus*.
S. 211.
Seen flying over occasionally.

115. Bonelli's Eagle, *Aquila bonellii*.
S. 206.
One seen 13th September 1909.
One frequented the Gardens during December 1909, and hunted the Night-Herons to such an extent that they entirely left the Gardens for several weeks.
In February and March 1910 single examples were again seen. One seen 20th November 1911.
With the exception of the first mentioned example all those met with have been immature birds.

116. Montagu's Harrier, *Circus cineraceus*.
S. 184.
Occasionally seen flying over.

117. Pallid Harrier, *Circus macrurus*.
Circus pallidus, S. 183.
One adult bird seen on the 6th September 1908, and on the 22nd October 1908.

118. Desert Buzzard, *Buteo vulgaris desertorum*.
Buteo desertorum, S. 201.
Occasionally seen in autumn : one frequented the Gardens during September 1907.
On 23rd and 27th October 1909, one example seen.
From April to July 1910 a pair frequented the Gardens daily, and during June they were seen accompanied by two young birds.

119. Rough-legged Buzzard, *Archibuteo lagopus*.
Not mentioned by Shelley.
One bird frequented the Gardens during August and September 1908.
One seen on 3rd and on 5th September 1909.

120. Levant Sparrow-Hawk, *Accipiter brevipes.*
Not mentioned by Shelley.
One male bird recorded, 18th September 1908, and one on 20th December 1909.

121. Sparrow-Hawk, *Accipiter nisus.*
S. 185.
A few arrive during the autumn, and remain throughout the winter.
In 1910 a pair frequented the Gardens up to the 8th May.

122. Egyptian Kite, *Milvus migrans ægyptius.*
Milvus ægyptius, S. 196.
Common and resident. Breeds in the Gardens in tall trees.
Adults with black bills but otherwise similar to typical *ægyptius* are frequently noticed.

123. Honey-Buzzard. *Pernis apivorus.*
S. 199.
One frequented the Gardens during August 1906.

124. Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus.*
S. 186.
Occasionally seen during winter and early spring.

125. Barbary Falcon, *Falco barbarus.*
S. 187.
Two seen on the 27th of September 1908.

126. Lanner Falcon, *Falco feldeggi.*
Falco lanarius, S. 188.
Falcons which doubtless belong to this species are frequently to be seen flying over or perched in the tall trees. One was identified for certain on 17th October 1910.

127. Hobby, *Falco subbuteo.*
S. 192.
Frequently seen during the autumn and winter months.
One seen on 8th May 1910.

128. Sooty Falcon, *Falco concolor.*
S. 192.
On 18th July 1911 an example of this rare Falcon was shot in the Gardens. It flew at a number of Quails in one of the aviaries, striking at them through the wire.

129. Merlin, *Falco aesalon.*
S. 191.
In winter and early spring a few are seen from time to time.

130. Red-footed Falcon, *Falco vespertinus.*
S. 193.
An adult male seen in the Gardens on the 2nd October 1908.
During May, June and July 1910 a pair were seen daily in the Gardens. Two more seen on 1st October and one on 13th October 1911.

131. Kestrel, *Cerchneis tinnunculus carlo.*
Falco tinnunculus, S. 194.
Common and resident.

132. Lesser Kestrel, *Cerchneis cenchris.*
S. 195.
One adult male seen on 10th April 1910.

133. Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus.*
S. 203.
Twice seen : 13th March 1903 and 20th October 1906.

134. Pelican, *Pelecanus onocrotalus.*
Pelecanus onocrotalus, S. 293.
Occasionally seen during the spring, autumn and winter months.

135. Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo.*
S. 295.
Ten were seen flying low over the Gardens on 9th February 1909.

136. Grey Heron, *Ardea cinerea.*
S. 266.
Frequently seen from August to April.
During the summer of 1909 a pair bred in the Gardens and one young one left the nest. In 1910 a pair bred again in an Aleppo pine tree and two young were safely reared, and were seen daily for several weeks.
In 1911 a pair patched up the old nest but I believe no young were reared.

137. Purple Heron, *Ardea purpurea.*
S. 266.
One seen in the Gardens on the 3rd, 4th and 6th May 1903, four seen in September 1908, three on 29th and one on 30th August 1911.

138. Great White Heron, *Ardea alba.*
Herodias alba, S. 267.
One seen on 3rd and 5th June 1904. On 29th July 1911 a flock of sixteen flew over the Gardens.

139. Little Egret, *Ardea garzetta.*
Herodias garzetta, S. 268.
Single birds noted eight times in the Gardens and on 11th September 1909 three were seen together amongst the Night Herons. They remained for three or four days.

140. Night-Heron, *Nycticorax griseus.*
S. 270.
The Night-Herons begin to arrive during August, winter here, and leave during the spring months. A few individuals, however, are seen at intervals throughout the summer. The number of these birds, which spend the day time in the Gardens, has greatly increased during the last ten years. 108 were counted on the 15th January 1901, 360 on the 11th December 1902. At present it is impossible to count them.
In December 1909 they were harried by a Bonelli's Eagle and they deserted the Gardens for some weeks.

141. Little Bittern, *Ardetta minuta.*
Botaurus minutus, S. 271.
An adult male seen on 26th April 1909.

142. Bittern, *Botaurus stellaris.*
S. 271.
One seen 9th October 1909.

143. White Stork, *Ciconia alba.*
S. 265.
On the 13th February 1903 nine Storks flew in circles over the Gardens for some time in the afternoon, and on the 23rd April 1903 thirteen Storks flew over. On 17th August 1909 eight were seen flying over just outside the Gardens. On 16th July 1911 about one hundred were seen flying over.

144. Glossy Ibis, *Plegadis falcinellus.*

Ibis falcinellus, S. 262.

On the evening of the 18th April 1909, six Glossy Ibis settled in some pine trees in the Gardens where they apparently intended to roost. They were, however, mobbed and driven away by Hooded Crows.

145. Spoonbill, *Platalea leucorodia.*

S. 264.

A flock flew over the Gardens on the 3rd September 1902, one was seen on the 20th October 1906, and seven on 12th December 1909.

146. Wild Duck, *Anas boschas.*

S. 283.

A regular winter visitor, but in small numbers. Ten is the largest number of birds seen at one time.

147. Gadwall, *Anas strepera.*

S. 283.

One male seen, 10th December 1906.

148. Shoveler, *Spatula clypeata.*

Rhynchaspis clypeata, S. 285.

A winter visitor, whose numbers have greatly increased during the last ten years. A few arrive, in some years, as early as August, and they become more and more numerous during the autumn and winter. Some leave here in March, but the majority do so in April, and. in some years, a few remain in the Gardens till the second week of May. Up to 1902 twenty was the largest number of Shovelers seen, at one time, on our lake. On the 18th January 1903, 171 were counted, and on the 6th March 1905, 443.

Since then it is estimated that over 500 Shovelers take up their winter quarters with us.

One was seen as late as 22nd May 1910, and until 2nd June 1911.

149. Pintail, *Dafila acuta.*

S. 284.

A winter visitor : not very abundant.

150. Teal, *Nettion crecca.*

Querquedula crecca, S. 286.

Several hundred Teal winter on the lake in the Gardens. In some years a few of them arrive as early as the latter part of August, and they have been known to stay as late as the 8th of May.

151. Garganey, *Querquedula circia.*

S. 287.

First seen on the lake 24th October 1909, when three were observed.

An adult male frequented the lake in April 1910. On the 1st and 2nd May 1910 five pairs were seen and a male remained till 20th May 1910. On 24th March 1911 a pair were noted. During April from one to three examples were seen from time to time, but on the 19th of that month eleven adult males were noticed.

152. Wigeon, *Mareca penelope.*

S. 288.

Wigeon were seen wild in the Gardens for the first time on the 1st of April 1906 (two birds), from then till the 9th of May 1906 about a dozen birds frequented the lake. A few appeared during the winters of 1906–7 and 1907–8.

153. Red-crested Pochard, *Fuligula rufina.*

Not included by Shelley.

Two flew low over the Gardens on the 9th September 1902.

154. Pochard, *Fuligula ferina.*

S. 289.

A few appear during the winter months.

155. Ferruginous Duck, *Fuligula nyroca.*

Nyroca leucophthalma, S. 288.

Usually appears singly, or at most two birds together, during the winter months, but it is not seen every winter.

156. Tufted Duck, *Fuligula cristata.*

S. 290.

An uncommon and irregular winter visitor.

157. Rock-Pigeon, *Columba livia.*

S. 211.

158. Schimper's Rock Pigeon, *Columba livia schimperi.*
S. 212.
Both of the above Rock Pigeons have been seen in the Gardens; the latter, however, is the commoner, though it is doubtful if *any* rock pigeons seen near Cairo are really *true* bred.

159. Stock Dove, *Columba œnas.*
S. 213.
On 17th December 1911 a flock of about fifteen seen flying over the Gardens.

160. Turtle-Dove, *Turtur turtur turtur.*
Turtur auritus, S. 214.
A regular visitor in spring and autumn.

161. Pale Turtle-Dove, *Turtur turtur arenicola.*
Hartert, Nov. Zool. Vol. I, p. 42.
This Turtle-Dove, which differs from the typical Turtle-Dove in having blue on the rump, pale edges to the wing coverts and shorter wings, is an abundant visitor during both migrations. This desert Turtle-Dove was originally described from Fao in the Persian Gulf and has not previously been recorded from Egypt.

162. Isabelline Turtle-Dove, *Turtur isabellinus.*
Turtur Sharpii, S. 215.
Turtur isabellinus, S. 216.
Seen in spring and autumn, but difficult to tell from the other forms of Turtle-Doves when flying over

163. Palm-Dove, *Turtur senegalensis ægyptiacus.*
Turtur senegalensis, S. 217.
Abundant and resident : nests in the Gardens.

164. Quail, *Coturnix coturnix coturnix.*
Coturnix communis, S. 223.
One seen in the Gardens 18th September 1909, and one picked up dead 1st October 1909. One seen on 7th October 1911.

165. Land-Rail, *Crex pratensis.*
Ortygometra crex, S. 274.
One recorded, 29th September 1908.

166. Moor-hen, *Gallinula chloropus.*
S. 275.
A few Moor-hen arrive in the autumn, sometimes as early as September, winter in the Gardens, and remain till April or the first half of May. A pair bred in the Gardens in April 1905.

167. Coot, *Fulica atra.*
S. 278.
H. S. 519.
Sometimes seen during the winter months.

168. Grey Crane, *Grus grus.*
Grus cinerea, S. 263.
One immature bird settled in an enclosure with one pinioned Grey Crane in October 1911. It was eventually caught.

169. ? Demoiselle Crane, *Grus virgo.*
S. 264.
Flocks of several hundred Cranes have at times flown high over the Gardens, probably of both the above species.

170. Stone-Curlew, *Oedicnemus senegalensis.*
Not mentioned by Shelley.
Common and resident. A pair bred wild in the Gardens during the summer of 1907, and reared *three* young.
This species bred regularly on the roof of Giza Palace (adjoining the Gardens) till that building was demolished. In our former report this species was erroneously recorded as *Oedicnemus scolopax.*

171. Pratincole, *Glareola pratincola.*
Glareola pratincola, S. 227.

172. Black winged Pratincole, *Glareola pratincola melanoptera.*
Glareola Nordmanni, S. 229.
Both of the above so-called races of pratincole occur in Egypt, but we believe that these are merely dimorphic forms of one species.
Pratincoles have been seen at times over the fields outside the west wall of the Gardens, and during the nights of 18th and 21st October 1907 Pratincoles were heard flying over the Gardens.

173. (Ringed Plover, *Ægialitis hiaticola*.)
? *Ægialitis intermedius*, S. 242.
Several seen outside the Main Gate of the Gardens during October and November 1908.

174. (Little Ringed Plover, *Ægialitis minor*.)
S. 242.
Several seen outside the Main Gate of the Gardens during October and November 1908. The Nile flood having been higher than in the preceding ten years, part of the land between the Gate and the river became submerged, and as the water subsequently receded many wading birds frequented the mud thus laid bare
During the same conditions in October and November 1910 numbers frequented the same spot.

175. (Kentish Plover, *Ægialitis cantiana*).
Ægialitis cantianus, S. 240.
A few Kentish Plover were observed outside the Main Gate in 1908, under the same circumstances as the Ringed Plovers mentioned above.

176. Lapwing, *Vanellus vanellus*.
Vanellus cristatus, S. 231.
A small flock frequented the Gardens during January and February 1901.
Occasionally seen flying over during winter months. Lapwings were unusually abundant during the winter of 1910-11..

177. Spur-winged Plover, *Hoplopterus spinosus*.
S. 232.
One seen 24th of August 1906.

178. Woodcock, *Scolopax rusticula*.
Scolopax rusticola, S. 247.
One, at least, winters in the Gardens nearly every year.

179. Ruff, *Machetes pugnax*.
S. 246.
Two seen flying over, 15th August 1906.

180. Sandpiper, *Totanus hypoleucus*.
Actitis hypoleucos, S. 259.
One seen on the 8th May, 1907.
One seen, 24th April 1911.

181. Green Sandpiper, *Totanus ochropus.*
S. 258.
Observed in the Gardens regularly every autumn but only singly or in pairs.

182. Wood Sandpiper, *Totanus glareola.*
S. 259.
Four seen outside the Gardens close to the main entrance 11th November 1908.

183. Greenshank, *Totanus canescens.*
S. 256.
One seen flying over the Gardens 26th July 1910.

184. Curlew, *Numenius arquata.*
S. 243 .
H. S. 627.
Three seen on the 29th September 1906.

185. (Lesser Black-backed Gull, *Larus fuscus.*)
S. 304.
H. S. 675.
Frequently seen just outside the Gardens during the autumn and winter.

186. (Herring Gull, *Larus argentatus vel cachinnans.*)
Two seen on 2nd August 1909 outside the main gate.

187. Black-headed gull, *Larus ridibundus.*
S. 309.
Frequently seen flying up the river just outside the Gardens during the winter and early spring.
On 11th December 1909 six were observed flying over the lake in the Gardens.

FOREIGN SPECIES OF BIRDS, WHICH PRESUMABLY MUST HAVE ESCAPED FROM CAPTIVITY ELSEWHERE IN EGYPT, WHICH HAVE VISITED THE GIZA ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS OF THEIR OWN ACCORD. OCTOBER 1898–DECEMBER 1911.

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1. *Hypochaera ultramarina.*
   Two trapped 24th June 1911.

2. Java Sparrow, *Munia oryzivora.*
   Recorded in 1898, 1900, 1901, 1907 and 1911.

3. Spice Finch, *Munia punctulata.*
   1906, 1907 and 1909.

4. Striated Finch, *Uroloncha striata.*
   1902, 1903 and 1908.

5. (Indian Silver-bill Finch, *Aidemosyne malabarica.*)
   Two seen in Orman Garden on the 14th September 1906.

6. African Silver-bill Finch, *Aidemosyne cantans.*
   One caught in Gardens 24th August 1911.

7. Waxbill, *Estrilda astrilda.*
   1906, 1907 and 1910.

8. Cordon-bleu Waxbill, *Urœginthus bengalus.*
   1906, 1908 and 1911.

9. Madagascar Weaver-Bird, *Foudia madagascariensis.*
   1902, 1907 and 1908.

10. Grey-headed Love-Bird, *Agapornis cana.*
    1898, 1899, 1902, 1906, 1907, 1908; and in 1911 a flock of ten individuals was seen.

11. Smaller Green Parrakeet, *Palœornis torquata vel P. docilis.*
    1901 to 1911 : probably breeds in the Gardens. At the present time the number of these Parrakeets living at large here is at least fourteen. But it should be noted that during the last ten years six birds have escaped from their cages and three have been turned out loose.

12. Larger Green Parrakeet, *Palœornis sp.*
    1902 and 1908.

13. Banded Parrakeet, *Palœornis fasciata.*
    One caught 23rd February 1911.

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